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JAMES

Duke of York and Albany,

EARL OF ULSTER,

Lord High ADMIRAL

OF

England, Scotland & Ireland,

CONSTABLE of DOVER-CASTLE,

LORD WARDEN of the *CINQUE PORTS*,

And GOVERNOR of PORTSMOUTH, &c.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

The better Ordering His *MAJESTIES* FLEET

IN

SAYLING.

INSTR. I.

As Soon as the Admiral shall loose his fore-top-Sail, and fire a gun, every Ship in the fleet is to make ready and weigh, and being come to Sail, to follow the Chief of their Squadron.

The Signal for Weighing by Day.

Instructions for

INSTR. II.

The Signal for Weighing by Night.

If the Admiral shall weigh in the night, he will fire one gun, and hang a light on the main-top-mast-shrowds above the constant light in the main-top, which is to be answered by the Chief of every Squadron, and the respective Ships to answer by a light on their main-tops, which they are to take in when the Admiral takes in his from the main-top-mast-shrowds, and not before.

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

INSTR. III.

To know the Admiral and all the Flag-Ships by their Lights.

For the better knowing and distinguishing each Squadron, and keeping company in the night, notice is to be taken, That

1. *The Admiral hath three lights on his poop, and one on his main-top.*
2. *The Vice-admiral (or he who commands in chief in the second place) two on his poop, and one on his main-top.*
3. *The Rere-admiral (or he who commands in chief in the third place) one on his main-top, and one on his poop.*
4. *The Vice-admiral of each Squadron, two on his poop.*
5. *The Rere-admiral of each Squadron, one on his poop; but when the whole fleet carry their lights, then the Rere-admiral of each Squadron is to carry two lights, the one hoisted a yard above the other on the Ensign-staff.*
6. *In case of foul weather and a dark night, each Ship is to carry a light.*

Sayling.

INSTR. IIII.

In case the Admiral would have the fleet to cut or slip in the day, he will fire two guns, and loose his fore-top-sail.

The Signal for Cutting *or* Slipping by Day.

And if he would have the fleet to cut or slip in the night, he will fire two guns, and hang a light in the main-top-mast-shrowds, above the constant light.

The Signal for Cutting *or* Slipping by Night.

INSTR. V.

That all Ships endeavour to Sail in their own Squadrons, and if they happen to be a Stern of their Chief, they are to make what Sail they can, and come up by them; and if any one Shall take in any Sail, and not do his utmost to come up with the chief of his Squadron, as aforesaid; or Shall not endeavour to Sail and anchor in his own Squadron; he Shall be tryed at a Council of war, as a neglecter of his duty. And the Flag-officers of each Squadron are to take notice of Such neglect, and to give an accompt thereof at the next meeting.

The Penalty, of not Sailing, and Anchoring, each Ship in his own Squadron.

Provided always,

1. *That in case of Springing a leak by day, under Sail, or any disaster, whereby any Ship is disabled for keeping company in the day; Such a Ship is to make a Sign thereof by firing two guns distinctly one after another, and to hale up his low-Sails.*

First Proviso.

The Signal for Springing a Leak by Day.

2. *That in case of Springing a leak, or other disaster, by night; Such a Ship is to hang out two lights of equal height in the Shrowds, and to fire guns.*

Second Proviso.

The Signal for Springing a Leak by Night.

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INSTR. VI.

There must be no striving for Wind, or Place, *either in Sayling or Tacking.*

In sayling or tacking, every Ship is to keep good order, and not to strive for the wind or place one of another, upon any pretext whatsoever, whereby the least prejudice or dammage may come to any Ship, or Ships of the fleet: That is to say, every Captain, Lieutenant, Master, Masters-mate, or Pilot of a Ship of lesser rank, is to give place to one of a greater; and if they be of one rank, then the younger Captain is to give place to the elder: However, no Captain, Lieutenant, Master, Masters-mate, or Pilot, is to stand or endeavour to take the place or wind of another Ship, (though of a lesser rank) so as dammage may ensue to either Ship, upon pain of cashiering and losing their pay; as well the elder Captain, or Captain of a better Ship; as the younger Captain, or Captain of a less Ship.

The Penalty of striving for Wind, or Place, *though it be the elder Captain, or greater Ship.*

But in case any Commander of a lesse Ship, or younger Captain, shall offer to go to windward of his Senior, or better Ship, when it comes to the necessity that one must give way or place to the other, then the Captain or Commander of a better Ship complaining, the Captain, Lieutenant, Master, Masters-mate, or Pilot, so offending, shall for every such first offence, forfeit three months wages, to be paid unto such persons as the Admiral or Council of war shall appoint, to be disposed of for the relief of wounded men, widows, and orphans of the slain: And for every such second offence, shall forfeit four months pay: And for every such third offence, be cashier'd, and lose his or their whole wages.

The Penalty *for a younger Captain, or a less Ship, to go to* windward *of an elder Captain, or a greater Ship.*

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INSTR. VII.

In Sayling at any time, no Ships are to presume to go to windward of the Chief of their Squadron, unless in chase or in fight; but to give due respect, to come and speak with him, as often as they can conveniently: And if the Chief of their Squadron come by the lee, and make a weft with his Jack, then every Ship of his Squadron is to bear under his stern, and speak with him.

None are to go to Windward of the Chief of their Squadron, *unleſs in Chaſe or Fight.*

The Signal when any Ship is to bear under the Stern of the Chief of his Squadron, *and* ſpeak with him.

INSTR. VIII.

As soon as the Admiral shall put abroad the Union-flag in the missen-shrowds, and fire one gun, all the Captains in the fleet are to repair on boord the Admiral.

The ſeveral and reſpective Signals, by which the Admiral calls any Captains, or other Commanders, on Boord.

If an Ensign be put abrood in the same place, all the Masters of Ships are to repair on board, as aforesaid.

If the Standard be put in the same place, then the Flag-Officers only are to repair on boord, as aforesaid.

If a red flag, then all the Captains of the Admiral's Squadron are to repair on boord, as aforesaid.

If a white flag, then the Vice-admiral, and all the Captains of his Squadron, are to go on boord, as aforesaid.

If a blew flag, then the Rere-admiral, and all the Captains of his Squadron, are to go on boord, as aforesaid.

If a Standard be put on the Ensign-staff, the Vice-admiral and Rere-admiral of the fleet only are to go on boord.

If a white flag be put on the Ensign-staff, all the Captains of

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Instructions for

the frigots, that carry thirty guns and upwards, are to go on boord.

If a blew flag be put there, all the Captains of the frigots, and good Saylers, that carry under thirty guns, are to go on boord.

If a red flag be put there, all the Captains of frigots, both small and great, are to go on boord.

If the Jack, coloured [redacted] colours, be put there, all the Captains of Ships, that are not frigots, shall go on boord.

If they are not in a capacity to go on boord themselves, they are to send their Lieutenants, or next Officers, to give an account thereof; and none are to fail upon forfeiture of one days pay, to be paid presently.

INSTR. IX.

The Signal when any Ship desires to Speak with the Admiral.

Whoever has a desire to speak with the Admiral, shall Spread a flag from the head of his top-mast down the Shrowds, lowering his top-sail, (that it may be the better discovered) and fire one gun.

INSTR. X.

The Signal for Tacking by Day.

When the Admiral would have the sternmost Ships to tack before him, in the day, he will fire one gun, and take in his Ensign, and put out a pendent on the Staff: And if he would have any particular Ship to tack, he will fire one gun, and take in his Ensign, and put up the Signal for speaking with that Ship.

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INSTR. XI.

If the fleet chance to tack in the night, the Admiral will fire one gun, and put out two lights more then he had before, at equal distance, one over another, on the poop; and each ship is to answer with one light more than ordinary; which light is to be kept out, till the Admirals lights be taken in.

The Signal for Tacking by Night.

And when the Signals are thus given for tacking in the night, by the Admirals and Flag-ships, the sternmost and leeward-most Ships must tack first, and so keep on with an easie Sail, till the Admiral comes a head again; and every Ship is to keep in order in their own Squadron.

And in what Order.

INSTR. XII.

If any shall chance to lose company in the day time, and meet again, those to windward shall

And those to leeward shall

The Signal when any Ships lose Company, *and meet again in the* Day.

And if the same thing shall happen by night, that they may the better know one another, he who hales shall ask, What Ship is that? And he who is haled, shall answer
And the other who first haled, shall reply

The Signal for the same thing by Night.

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INSTR. XIII.

The Signal when the Admiral ſhall ſhorten Sail *in the* Night.

If in case of Sayling in the night, it overblows, ſo that the Admiral ſhall think fit to ſhorten Sayl, he will put out one light over the other on the poop; and each Ship is to answer with another light, beside what they had before; it being understood, that in foul weather, and a dark night, each Ship is to carry a light.

INSTR. XIV.

The Signal when the Admiral lyes a Trey *in foul weather.*

If by reason of foul weather it be thought fit by the Admiral to hand the fore-ſails, and lye a trey, he will ſhew four lights of equal height, and the rest are to answer with the like.

Signal when he lyes a Hull.

And if the Admiral ſhall at any time, think fit to lye ſhort, or a hull, in regard of foul weather, then will he ſhew three lights, one over another, on the main-ſhrowds, or where they may be most conveniently ſeen.

Signal when any other Ship lyes a Trey *or* a Hull.

And it is to be noted, That if any of the fleet have occaſion to trey or hull, when the reſt of the fleet bear away, he is to fire one gun, and ſhew the ſame number of lights, after the manner here before exprest.

Signal when the Admiral Sails (after blowing weather) in the Night.

When the Admiral ſhall ſee cauſe to make Sail in the night, after blowing weather, he will ſhoot off two guns; which are to be answered by the Vice and Rere-admirals of his own Squadron, with one gun: The Vice and Rere-admirals of the fleet, are each of them to ſhoot off two guns; and each of their Vice and Rere-admirals, one gun: And the Admiral will put out three lights,

one

one over the other, in the main-shrowds, according to the Signal for shortning Sail; which being answered from every Ship, he will take in.

INSTR. XV.

If the Admiral shall alter his course in the night, he will fire one gun, without alteration of lights; which is to be answered by the Chief of every Squadron.

Signal when the Admiral alters his Course in the Night.

INSTR. XVI.

If in the night the Admiral should not see the fleet, and yet would know where each Ship is, he will put out two lights of equal height, besides what he had before: And each Ship is to answer with the like, and to get as near as conveniently they can, to the chief of their Squadron's lights.

The Signal whereby the Admiral makes himself known in the Night, *when he sees not the Fleet.*

INSTR. XVII.

If at any time after sayling (being in the open Sea) the Admiral shall anchor, the fire-Ships and small Ships of his division are to anchor a fair birth to windward of him; and to observe, and shift their roads, as the wind shifts, (during the time the Admiral rides there) in case the weather shall permit them.

Directions for the Fire-Ships and small Ships of the Admirals Division, when he Anchors in the open Sea.

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INSTR. XVIII.

The Signal when the Admiral Anchors in the Night.

If the Admiral chance to anchor in the night, he will fire two guns, a small distance of time one from another; to which his Vice and Rere-admirals are to answer, each with one gun: The Vice-admiral of the fleet, with two; his Vice and Rere-admirals, each of them with one: Then the Rere-admiral of the fleet, with two; and his Vice and Rere-admirals, each of them with one: Whereby the chief Ships of each Squadron may have convenient time to birth themselves, and the whole fleet may have timely notice to dispose of themselves near their respective flags; so that they may receive no prejudice one by another: And each Ship is to answer with two lights.

INSTR. XIX.

The Signal when any discovers Land, *or* Danger *in the* Night.

If in the night any one sees land or any danger, he who first discovers it, is to fire one gun, and then to shew as many lights as he can, and to bear away or tack from it.

INSTR. XX.

The Signals in a Fog.

If it grow thick and foggy weather, and there be Sea-room enough, the Admiral will hale up his low-sails, and shoot every hour a gun; which the flag-officers of the Admirals own Squadron, are first to answer; afterwards, the Vice-admiral, and his flag-officers; then the Rere-admiral, and his flag-officers; and all

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the rest of the fleet are to answer, with firing of musquets, beating of drums, and sounding of trumpets.

If the Admiral make sail in a fog, he will fire three guns one after another, and one every glass; which is to be answered by the chief Ships of each Squadron; and the rest are to beat drums, shoot off musquets, and sound trumpets, as before.

Signal for Sailing *in a* Fog.

If the Admiral shall tack in a fog, or thick weather, so that the Admiral cannot discern the whole fleet, he will fire four guns immediately one after another; and the chief flags of the other Squadrons, are to answer, each of them with three; and to keep firing, as aforesaid.

Signal for Tacking *in a* Fog.

If the Admiral shall anchor in a fog, he will do the same thing, as when he anchors in the night; for which see Instr. 18.

Signal for Anchoring *in a* Fog.

INSTR. XXI.

When the Captains, and other Officers of the fleet, shall come into any port or harbour, they shall endeavour to supply themselves with water and ballast, and whatever else shall be necessary for Sayling and fitting their Ships, and enabling them for present service. They are likewise to be very careful to wash and make clean their Ships, as often as they shall have opportunity, especially between decks and in the hold; to which end they shall hoist up all beef, pork, and beer-casks, on the upper deck, and shake them there, that so no stench may go down into the hold.

When the Captains, &c. come into any Port, *&c. they are to* supply themselves with all Necessaries.

And to make and to keep their Ships clean *and* sweet, *especially* between Decks.

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Instructions for

INSTR. XXII.

In case any Ship or vessel, not of His Majesties fleet, shall at any time come into the fleet, and make towards the Admiral, or lye driving in the fleet, or at anchor; those Ships of His Majesties fleet, which are nearest to such a Ship or vessel, are to send on boord the said Ship, to know what she is, and to give an account thereof unto the Admiral; not permitting such a Ship or vessel to come to the Admiral, unexamined.

If a strange Ship *come into the Fleet, the Ships that are neareſt, are to know what ſhe is.*

INSTR. XXIII.

When the Admiral being at anchor, shall fire a gun at any Ship or vessel, approaching, passing by, or standing away from him, or at anchor; any Ship of the fleet, which shall then happen to be nearest to that Ship or vessel, at which the Admiral shall so fire, shall also fire at, and endeavour to Speak with the said Ship, and bring the Commander thereof to the Admiral: But if such a Ship shall decline to be so Spoken with, and the Admiral shall think fit to fire three times at her, those Ships of His Majesties fleet that are nearest (under the third rate) shall immediately slip or cut their Cables, and use their best endeavour to bring such a Ship or vessel to the Admiral.

If the Admiral fire at a ſtrange Ship, *the next Ship (under the Third Rate) is to fire at her, and bring her to the Admiral.*

INSTR. XXIV.

When the Admiral shall put forth a flag striped with red and white on the fore-top-mast-head, the Admiral of the white Squadron shall send out Ships to chase; when on the missen-top-mast-head, the Admiral of the blew shall send out Ships to chase.

The Signal for the Admiral of the White Squadron *to send out Ships to* Chase.

Signal for the Admiral of the Blew *to send out Ships to* Chase.

If the Admiral would have any particular Ship of his own division (excepting his Vice and Rere-admiral) to chase, he will put a flag, striped red and white, on that place, where the ordinary Signal for Speaking with that particular Ship, uses to be a pendent.

The Signal for any Ship of the Admiral's Division *to* Chase, *excepting his Vice and Rere-Admirals.*

If a flag striped red and white be Spread upon the main-top-mast, under the Standard, the Vice-admiral of the red is to send out Ships to chase.

The Signal for the Vice-Admiral of the Red *to send out Ships to* Chase.

If the same flag be hoisted on the Ensign-staff, the Rere-admiral of the red is to send out Ships to chase.

The Signal for the Rere-Admiral of the Red *to send out Ships to* Chase.

INSTR. XXV.

Upon firing one gun, and lowering the main-top-sail of the Admiral, or Chief of the Squadron, every Ship in chase shall give over his chase: And when the Admiral doth it, the chief of the Squadron next to him or them, ought to do the like, whereby the Signal may be the more apparent.

The Signal for giving over Chase.

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INSTR. XXVI.

The Signals in case of discovering another Fleet by Day.

If any one in the day time chance to see a Ship or Ships, more than His Majesties fleet, he is to put abroad his Ensign, and there to keep it till the Admiral's is out, and then to strike it as many times as he sees Ships, and to stand with them, that so the Admiral may know which way they are, and how many; but in case they be at such a distance, that the Ensign cannot be well discovered, then he is to lay up his head towards the Ships or fleet which he so descrys, and to brayl up his low-sails, and to continue hoisting and lowering his top-sails, and making a weft with his top-gallant-sail (if he has any) until the Admiral answers by lowering his top-sails, and making a weft with his top-gallant-sails.

The Signal in case of discovering a Fleet by Night.

If by night, the Signal is by firing of guns, and making of many false fires, and putting out a light in the main-top, and three on the poop, steering after them, and shooting off guns; unless the Admiral keep out his lights, and steer away another course, and fire one gun, two, or three, to call them off; in which case, they are to leave the Ships and fleet so descryed, and follow the Admiral.

James

By Command of His R. Highe

Jo Sedley